

# Wing Tips

108th Air Refueling Wing  
New Jersey Air National Guard  
March 2004 Volume 4 Issue 3



## Change of Command info

A retirement dinner for Maj. Gen. Clark W. Martin will be held at the Officer's Club on Friday, April 16, 2004. Cocktail hour starts at 6 p.m. with a dinner to follow at 7 p.m. Required uniform is mess dress.

The New Jersey Air National Guard Change of Command ceremony will be held on Saturday, April 17, 2004 in hanger 3333 at 10 a.m. Uniform of the day is acceptable.

For more information on the retirement dinner or the change of command contact Mrs. Connie Cisek at 609-562-0901.

## Mark your calendars

The August 2004 UTA date has been changed from Aug. 14 and 15 to Aug. 21 and 22. In addition, the technician off day has changed from Aug. 20 to Aug. 13, 2004.

## ESGR Awards

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2004 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award, which recognizes significant contributions and sacrifices made by employers of National Guard and Reserve members. For the first time, nominations may be submitted by anyone who has knowledge of a company or organization deserving of the award. Previously, only guardsmen and reservists could submit nominations. Recipients will be recognized during ceremonies on Sep. 21 in Washington. For more information visit [www.esgr.com](http://www.esgr.com).

## Scholarship deadlines

A reminder for all eligible scholarship applicants:

The deadline for NGANJ Scholarship Applications is March 15. For more information visit [http://www.nganj.org/docs/scholarship\\_application.pdf](http://www.nganj.org/docs/scholarship_application.pdf).

The deadline for EANG-NJ Scholarship Applications is April 15. For more information about this scholarship visit <http://www.eang-nj.org/scholarships.html>.



Above: Senior Master Sgt. Richard Bouffard (left), 108 LRS, explains to Lt. Gen. John Baker (right), AMC Vice Commander, the workings of the Logistics Readiness Squadron and their mobility bag process.

## AMC Vice Commander visits 108th

The Air Mobility Command Vice Commander, Lt. Gen. John Baker, made his first visit to the 108th Air Refueling Wing on Thursday, February 26, 2004. The 108th was the last leg of his trip to New Jersey that included visits to the Air Mobility Warfare Center, the 21st Expeditionary Mobility Task Force and the 305th Air Mobility Wing.

During his brief stay with the 108th, Lt. Gen. Baker walked through the

shops of bldg. 3333, the warehouse and offices of bldg. 3369 and concluded his tour with a briefing in bldg. 3390.

According to Col. Michael Cunniff, "This was a successful visit and a great chance to share our views and receive input on the future of the 108th Air Refueling Wing. We are always happy to host senior leadership within the Air Force."

# Military retirees saw pay increase

courtesy of DMAVA Highlights

An estimated 150,000 military retirees saw an increase in their pay on February 2, 2004. The National Defense Authorization Act, enacted in November 2003, significantly modified a long-standing law preventing retirees from receiving full retired pay if they also received disability pay from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The new law allowed concurrent receipt of military retired pay and VA disability pay for retirees with more than 20 years of service and a disability rating of 50 percent or more. This restored pay will be phased in over a 10-year period that began January 1, 2004.

The first payments were due February 2 for the law change that was effective January 1. The additional funds paid February 2 were also based on entitlement for January 1 to January 31. The restored pay is paid on the same schedule as current military retired

pay. Recurring payments will be made on the first business day of each month based on entitlement for the month before.

For more details regarding who is eligible for the restored pay and how payments will be made, visit [www.dfas.mil](http://www.dfas.mil) and see the topics under "Retired and Annuitant Pay," or visit the myPay website at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>.

**No child is born prejudiced. His prejudices are always acquired...chiefly in fulfillment of his own needs. Yet the context of his learning is always the social structure in which his personality develops.**

**-Gordon Allport, 1954**

(Courtesy of the 108th MEO Office)

## Nets vs. Bucks

Come see Jason Kidd, Richard Jefferson, Kenyon Martin and the rest of the back-to-back Eastern Conference Champion New Jersey Nets battle Michael Redd and the Milwaukee Bucks on Tuesday, April 6 at the Continental Airlines Arena. Bring your family, friends or co-workers for a wonderful evening dedicated to the Armed Forces and watch as future Guard members are sworn-in to the New Jersey Air National Guard. For more information contact Master Sgt. Beltran-Bell at 609-754-1260. To order tickets by April 1, contact Ashwin Puri at 201-635-3304.

## Front and Center

**Name:** Kenneth L. Hudson

**Rank:** Tech. Sgt.

**Total time in service:** 20 years, 7 months of total military service, 8 years active duty Air Force and 12 years with the 108th

**Job in the 108th:** Information Management Specialist

**Job in the civilian world:** Police officer

**Family:** Son, Kenny Jr., 14 years old, daughter, Aida, 2 years old

**Favorite food:** Macaroni and cheese

**Favorite movie:** "Barbershop II"

**Favorite actor and actress:** Chris Tucker and Gabrielle Union

**Favorite TV show:** "Sanford and Son"

**Favorite author:** Langston Hughes

**Favorite music genre:** Hip hop and R&B

**Favorite sport:** Basketball

**What I do with my spare time:** Working out, playing basketball and riding my motorcycle

**Person I most look up to:** My mother

**Dream vacation:** Corfu Island, Greece

**Dream car:** Mercedes Benz S 600

**My goal is:** To become a police commissioner

**Words to live by:** Live each day to the fullest like it's your last and always be happy

**Pet Peeves:** People who smoke, bad breath and slow drivers in the passing lane

**What I like most about the 108th Air Refueling Wing:** The 108th Communications Flight

**If I were commander for the day I would:** Switch the roles between enlisted and officer personnel





# Odds and Ends

## Vacancy announcement

The 108th Civil Engineering Squadron has a vacancy for an engineering officer. Any NJANG enlisted person desiring consideration should prepare a detailed resume of military and civilian experience, an AF Form 24 (application for appointment in the ANG and Reserve AF), college transcript and a recommendation from the unit commander. Specific commission requirements are contained in ANGI 36-2005 and AFSC duty description and requirements are contained in ANGI 36-2105. The selected candidate must attend a 6-week AMS commissioning program at McGhee Tyson ANGB, Tenn., attend an Air Force Specialty School and agree to remain a member of the NJANG for 4 years. Applications, with supporting documents, must be submitted to MPF not later than April 17, 2004.

## IG Investigating Officer's Course

On behalf of our Commander, Colonel Michael L. Cunniff, the 108th Air Refueling Wing would like to invite interested personnel to the USAF IG Investigating Officer's Course here at McGuire AFB, N.J. on May 18-20, 2004. Class size is limited to 50 individuals and slots will be granted on a first come, first serve basis. To R.S.V.P. or for more information contact Lt. Col. Toni Hay at by April 15, 2004.

## Cold War Certificates available

Service members, veterans and federal employees who served between September 2, 1945 and December 26, 1991 are still eligible for a Cold War Recognition Certificate, said officials of the U.S. Army Personnel Command. In fiscal 1998, the Secretary of Defense approved awarding the certificate to personnel who served during the Cold War. For more information and an application, visit <https://www.perscomonline.army.mil/tagd/coldwar/default.htm>. Applications will be accepted only by fax or mail.

## LES change

A letter from the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), dated Nov. 4, 2003, provided notification that effective pay period ending January 24, 2004, only the final 4-positions of the social security number will be displayed on the hard-copy LES. This change does not effect the electelectronic copies, which will continue to show the entire social security number.

## Wing Tips deadlines

The deadline for April *Wing Tips* is April 1. Articles/photos should be emailed to: [pa.108arw@njmcgu.af.mil](mailto:pa.108arw@njmcgu.af.mil). Please ensure digital photos are a minimum of 400 dpi, and send the raw file, do not alter it. Photos and graphics need to be in .jpg or .tif format. Articles must be in Word format. Deadline for May *Wing Tips* is April 30 and June *Wing Tips* is May 24.

## What's happening

### March

|          |                     |
|----------|---------------------|
| March 17 | Saint Patrick's Day |
| March 20 | Spring begins       |

### April

|          |                              |
|----------|------------------------------|
| April 4  | Daylight savings time begins |
| April 6  | 1st day of Passover          |
| April 9  | Good Friday                  |
| April 11 | Easter Sunday                |

### May

|        |              |
|--------|--------------|
| May 9  | Mother's Day |
| May 31 | Memorial Day |

## Condolences

Condolences to Col. Michael Moore, 108th Mission Support Group Commander, whose mother, Susie S. Moore, passed away on Feb. 17. A service was held at Grace Temple Baptist Church in Lawnside, N.J.

Condolences also to Maj. Vito Dimicco, 108th Finance Comptroller, whose father, Vito A. Dimicco Sr., passed away in Jan. The funeral was held at St. Stephens Episcopal Church.

## Chiefs Council Thanks You

The 108th Chiefs Council would like to thank everyone who supported the fund raiser during the November Drill. We were able to raise \$1,250 for wounded Armed Forces personnel now recuperating at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center. The Chiefs Council purchased \$1,000 of AT&T calling cards and \$250 of US postage stamps for use by the wounded soldiers and airmen. THANKS AGAIN!

## Recreation information on the Web

Want to know what's happening on McGuire AFB? Get ticket and travel information, Youth Center activities, Wright Bros Café/Pudgy's menus and daily specials, Falcon Creek Golf Course events, MAFB Library programs and more by visiting [www.305services.com](http://www.305services.com).

## You can still benefit from low rates

Interest rates for mortgage loans remain low, though they are rising. If you are a service member or veteran thinking about purchasing a home or you are interested in refinancing your current mortgage at a lower interest rate, you can find valuable information on the Department of Veterans Affairs Web site at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov).

# New law updates Soldiers & Sailors Relief Act of 1940

Courtesy of DMAVA Highlights

On December 19, 2003, President Bush signed the "Service Members Civil Relief Act," new legislation that updates and expands all military members' important financial and legal rights as they enter active duty or are deployed to new duty stations. Authored by Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman, Congressman Chris Smith, the Service Members Civil Relief Act (SCRA) updates and strengthens current civil protections enacted during World War II.

The SCRA provides a wide range of protections and is intended to postpone or suspend certain civil obligations to enable service members to devote full attention to duty and relieve stress on family members of those deployed service members. A few examples of such obligations you may expect to be protected against are:

- Outstanding credit card debt
- Mortgage payments

- Pending trials
- Taxes
- Terminations of lease

In addition, the new law:

- Expands current laws that protects service members and their families against eviction from housing while on active duty due to nonpayment of rents that are \$1,200 per month or less. Under the new provisions this protection would be significantly updated to meet today's higher cost of living – covering housing leases up to \$2,400 per month – and then be adjusted annually to account for inflation.
- Provides a service member who receives permanent change of station orders or who is deployed to a new location for 90 days or more the right to terminate a housing lease.
- Clarifies and restates the existing law that limits the interest on credit card obligations, including credit card debt, to 6% for active duty service members. The SCRA unambiguously states that no

interest above 6% can accrue for credit obligations while on active duty, nor can that excess interest become due once the service member leaves active duty – instead that portion above 6% is permanently forgiven. Furthermore, the monthly payment must be reduced by the amount of interest saved during the covered period.

- Updates life insurance protections provided to activated Guard and Reserve members by increasing from \$10,000 to \$250,000, the maximum policy coverage that the federal government will protect from default for nonpayment while on active duty.

- Prevents service members from a form of double taxation that can occur when they have a spouse who works and is taxed in a state other than the state in which they maintain their permanent legal residence. SCRA will prevent states from using the income earned by a service member in determining the spouse's tax rate when they do not maintain their permanent legal residence in that state.

The SCRA covers all active duty service members, Reservists and members of the National Guard *while on active duty*. The protection begins on the date of entering active duty and generally terminates within 30-90 days after the date of discharge from active duty. For more information on the new law, visit: [www.defenselink.mil/specials/Relief\\_Act\\_Revision](http://www.defenselink.mil/specials/Relief_Act_Revision) or contact your Judge Advocate's office at 609-754-3870.

## MAD FUUn

Make a difference for uniformed unity (MAD FUUn) is a sub-committee of the 108th Recruiting and Retention Office. Our goal is to promote unity, camaraderie, raise morale, build new relationships and expand on existing ones among our 108th family.

Every two months we organize trips to local area entertainment on the Saturday night of the UTA. Since August, when our program began, we have gone on trips to The Spirit of Philadelphia, Medieval Times and Dave & Buster's. The March MAD FUUn event will be the Comedy Show at the Tropicana in Atlantic City. For more information on MAD FUUn trips or to become a committee member contact Senior Airman Dee Eggles at 609-754-4090.

## Wing Tips on 3 Web sites

*Wing Tips* is now accessible to unit members, retirees and the public on three different Web sites.

It can be accessed on the following public Web sites – <http://groups.yahoo.com/groupmcguireairguardians> and <http://www.108arw.ang.af.mil>.

Unit members will also find it on the members-only Web site at <https://108mbr.ang.af.mil>.

Printed color copies will be distributed to buildings 3305, 3306, 3324, 3333, 3369, 3390 and 1818.

### 108th Air Refueling Wing Editorial Staff

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# Boom Box



Col. Tim Carroll (left), 108 MXG/CC, pins new rank on Staff Sgt. Gilberto Hernandez (right), 108 CF/SCX.



Col. Tim Carroll (right), 108 MXG/CC, greets Lt. Col. Vincent Santangelo (left), 177th Fighter Wing, as he returns from a recent deployment to Turkey.



From left to right: Tech. Sgt. Audley English and Master Sgt. Rafael Jimenez, 108 MXMS, are welcomed home from the recent deployment to Turkey by New Jersey Congressmen Jim Saxton and Frank A. Lobiondo and Brig. Genn. Glenn K. Reith.



Senior Airman Nishaun Evans (left), 108 MXS, gives a statement about her time in Turkey supporting Operation Enduring Freedom to Burlington County Times reporter, Josh Berstein (right).

## KUDOS

Congratulations to the following DMAVA award winners:

Federal employee of the 2nd quarter, Master Sgt. Michael Greaves, Logistics Management Specialist.

Federal employee of the 3rd quarter, Mrs. Dawn Bullock, secretary to the air commander.

### We want you!

Have you, or someone you know, recently received an award, certificate or recognition for your accomplishments? If you would like to be recognized in *Wing Tips*, please send a short description of the accomplishment and, if possible, a photo (min. 400 dpi) to [pa.108arw@njmcguire.af.mil](mailto:pa.108arw@njmcguire.af.mil) or mail them to the 108th Air Refueling Wing, Attn Public Affairs, 3327 Charles Blvd., McGuire AFB, NJ 08641-5406.



New Jersey Congressman Michael A. Ferguson and Rhode Island Congressman James D. Langevin traveled to Iraq last week to meet with New Jersey airmen supporting *Operation Iraqi Freedom*. Ferguson brought with him cards made by elementary school children in New Jersey and distributed calling cards.

From left to right is Tech. Sgt. Bill

Christopher, 172nd Fighter Group, Kentucky Air National Guard, Congressman Michael A. Ferguson, and Senior Master Sgt. Paul Kasica, Staff Sgt. John Hupp and Senior Airman Jacob Weidinger, all from McGuire Air Force Base, N.J. These airmen were part of the 447th Air Expeditionary Force that support Air Force operations in Iraq. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jim Collins



# Camera phones pose risk to security

by Master Sgt. Darrell Lewis  
Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center Public Affairs

TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. (AFPN) — Carrying the latest “have-to-have” electronic gadget may mean big trouble for the person who brings it into unauthorized locations.

Officials from the National Security Agency said in an advisory that new cellular phones with integral digital cameras pose an unacceptable security risk to homeland security. This type of phone is not authorized for use or possession within any Air Force facility processing classified information without written authorization from the designated approval authority.

“Communications are getting faster and easier,” said Jane Guidicini, Air Force Communications Agency certified emission security technical authority. “While that does help speed communications, it can also unfortunately allow classified information to get out of a classified area inadvertently or otherwise.

“We realize occasionally the restrictions might seem overly strict when the new technologies come out, but it’s better to be overly cautious than to have an incident,” Ms. Guidicini said.



“It takes just a little common sense to realize that if you have a cell phone with a camera, you should leave it home if you work in a classified area,” said Tech. Sgt. Shon Kloepping, 72nd Security Forces Squadron noncommissioned officer in charge of physical security.

If someone in a restricted area has one of the phones with a camera capability and a security forces troop

discovers it, he or she would be forced to confiscate the camera for review of unlawful images, Sergeant Kloepping said.

Additionally, civilian employees could face federal charges and military members could face federal charges and Uniform Code of Military Justice actions, he said.

But it is not just a good idea to limit their use in “secure rooms” where classified information is being processed, said Peter Bryant, Air Force Materiel Command security forces directorate information security chief.

“You should watch how you use and carry those anywhere you’re dealing with sensitive or proprietary information,” he said.

If people see someone using any unauthorized camera without coordinating with base agencies, contact the base security forces squadron, Mr. Bryant said.

“It all comes down to being aware,” Sergeant Kloepping said. (Courtesy of AFMC News Service)

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## This month in Air Force history

by Staff Sgt. John Lacomia  
108 ARW Wing Historian

**March 1, 1954** - The United States exploded its first hydrogen bomb.

**March 2, 1972** - Pioneer 10, a deep space probe designed to photograph the planet Jupiter, was launched on its 623 million mile journey. It became the first known object to leave Earth’s solar system.

**March 3, 1931** - President Herbert Hoover signed the bill that adopted the “Star-Spangled Banner” as the official U.S. anthem.

**March 5, 1965** - The F-111A made its first supersonic flight.

**March 7, 1942** - The first class of Tuskegee Airman graduated from USAAF Tuskegee Army Air Field.

**March 8, 1953** - The Air Force’s first rotary wing assault group, equipped with H-19 and H-21 helicopters, was activated.

**March 8, 1910** - Baroness Raymonde de la Roche of France became the world’s first licensed woman pilot.

**March 9, 1964** - The Combat Readiness Medal was established.

**March 9, 1945** - In a change of tactics to

double bomb loads, the 20th Air Force sent more than 300 B-29s from the Marianas in a low-altitude, incendiary night raid against Tokyo, that destroyed about one-fourth of the city.

**March 10, 1943** - The Fourteenth Air Force was formed under the command of Maj. Gen. Claire Chennault.

**March 14, 1973** - Headquarters U.S. Air Forces Europe was officially established at Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

**March 15, 1951** - The Boeing Airplane Co., using a Boeing KC-97A *Strato-freighter* tanker, successfully refueled a B-47 jet bomber.

**March 17, 1981** - The first KC-10A *Extender* tanker/cargo aircraft was delivered to Strategic Air Command.

**March 17, 1971** - The first woman was commissioned through the co-educational Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps program, Auburn University, Auburn, Ala.

**March 18, 1971** - The Air Force selected its first female aircraft maintenance officer.

**March 21, 1978** - Capt. Sandra Scott became the first female pilot of a KC-135

to perform alert duty in Strategic Air Command.

**March 22, 1966** - 20 high schools were selected to start the new Junior ROTC program.

**March 24, 1970** - The President mobilized Air Force Reserve and Guard units to support the U.S. Post Office Department during a strike by postal employees.

**March 24, 1958** - The Air Force Commendation Medal was established.

**March 25, 1965** - The Air National Guard received approval to display standard USAF marking on its aircraft.

**March 27, 1945** - B-29 crews began night mining missions around Japan, that eventually established a complete blockade.

**March 30, 1970** - A two-man submarine, the first Air Force owned underwater vessel, was added to the Western Test Range inventory and used to locate re-entry vehicles in the Eniwetok Atoll area.

**March 31, 1978** - *Thunderbolt II* was approved as the popular name for the A-10 aircraft.

**Wing Tips, March 2004**

# Make a difference, become a mentor

by Lt. Col. Penny Bailey  
100th Air Refueling Wing director of staff

**ROYAL AIR FORCE MILDENHALL, England (USAFENS)** — Mentorship seems to have different meanings for different people. Some consider it a form of counseling, communicating or learning by example. But, whatever you want to call it, it is something that certainly can be beneficial to any organization. It is a proven approach and valuable tool for leaders.

Mentoring is the presence of caring individuals who provide support, advice, friendship, reinforcement and constructive examples to help others succeed. Mentoring can mean the difference between success and failure.

Mentoring helps prepare officers, enlisted and civilians for increased responsibilities by encouraging job competency, military education, professional development, higher education and serving the needs of the Air Force and our nation. Mentoring encourages people by promoting communication, and personal and professional development.

It does not have to be just at the top levels that daily contact and one-on-one discussions occur. This can and should apply at the smallest unit level.

Supervisors of all ranks and in all positions can and should mentor those junior to them. Modern technology has actually made it easier. With e-mail, someone can seek advice or guidance anytime, and if it is not an emergency, the mentor can answer the questions and provide thoughtful advice at their convenience. Thus, mentoring can take place just about anytime.

Actually, mentoring occurs all the time. Each time you have a discussion with another military member, at a minimum informal mentoring is taking place as you are providing insight based on your own experiences. Therefore, it is imperative that information provided is thoughtful and will be beneficial to the individual as well as the organization.

Whether a mentor sets a regular time on their schedule daily, weekly, or monthly is not as important as being accessible, and prepared to listen and respond to their protégé when needed. Mentoring is not effortless and time will be required. Both parties must be active participants and work out a schedule that is best for both of them.

Generally, mentors fill four roles: they are advisor, coach, facilitator and advocate. As an advisor, the mentor should encourage two-way communication and

feedback and assist the protégé with career and performance goals. As a coach, the mentor helps to clarify developmental needs, recommends training opportunities and teaches skills and behaviors. As an advocate, the mentor could represent the protégé's concern to higher management levels of specific issues, arrange for the protégé to participate in high visibility projects and serve as a role model.

Mentors do not have all the answers. Sometimes just listening attentively is all people need. Mentoring is a fundamental responsibility of all Air Force supervisors. It helps protégés reach their full potential, thereby enhancing the overall professionalism of the Air Force. Additionally, when an interest is shown in others, the Air Force is able to retain its most valuable asset — people.

By understanding the “what, why, who, when, where and how” of mentoring there should be no mystery about providing assistance to junior Air Force personnel. If the Air Force is to continue to be the best in the world, it not only needs superior weapons systems, but personnel who are advanced in their knowledge and skills, because caring mentors took the time to listen, learn and advise to the best of their abilities.

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## Chief of staff takes aim at safety

2/20/2004 - **WASHINGTON (AFPN)** — Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper has made it clear that he wants a mishap-free Air Force.

General Jumper posted his thoughts on safety in his Feb. 18 “Chief’s Sight Picture.” The Sight Picture can be accessed through the Air Force’s Internet home page at [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil).

“Our ultimate goal is zero mishaps,” the general wrote. “Some people may think zero is simply too hard to be a realistic goal. To my way of thinking, however, any goal other than zero implies that some mishaps are acceptable. But no mishap is.”

The Air Force has lost more than 1,000 airmen in accidents during the past 10 years, with off-duty private vehicle accidents being the number one killer.

“Another program, procedure or lecture won’t help,” General Jumper wrote. “Each of us paying attention will. The right attitude about safety in peacetime is no different than how we feel about surviving in war.”

General Jumper established the Air Force Operational Safety Council, chaired by Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley, to oversee safety matters. The AFOSC will monitor safety performance, examine new or emerging technologies from both the operational and safety perspectives and direct required changes in Air Force safety policy, programs and investment.

“All the oversight in the world won’t help if our airmen don’t take each other’s safety — their survival — seriously,” General Jumper wrote.

### Volunteers Needed!

Do you have a little spare time on your hands? Are you looking for something fun to do? Would you like to be involved more when your loved one deploys? Why not volunteer with Family Readiness, times are flexible, volunteer from home or come down to the center and help out, there is always something going on! If interested please contact Tiffany Colby at 609-754-4479 or [tiffany.colby@njmcgu.af.mil](mailto:tiffany.colby@njmcgu.af.mil) for more information. We look forward to seeing you!

# Are you your unit's weakest link?

By Lt. Col. Cephas Franklin  
14th Communications Squadron commander

(AETCNS) — The host of the popular television game show “The Weakest Link” puts contestants on the spot by firing question after question at them in a timed round.

The player who best handles the pressure and answers the most questions correctly usually winds up the winner.

To play this game in a less stressful situation, I’m going to ask you to answer some simple yes or no questions geared toward information technology.

- Do you have your network or e-mail account password written under your keyboard or in an area anyone can easily access?
- Have you shared your network or e-mail account password with anyone?
- Did you click “yes” when the virus-warning screen popped up on your computer, instead of notifying your computer security manager?
- Have you shared your new Common Access Card personal identification number with anyone?
- Have you walked away from your desk while logged into the network without locking your computer?

- Have you forgotten the name of your system administrator or computer security manager?
- Have you loaded software on your computer without permission or approval?
- Have you connected any items to your computer or the network without approval of the designated approval authority?
- Have you visited unauthorized Web sites?

Now that you’ve taken the quiz, here’s the secret: If you answered “yes” to any of the questions, you could be the weakest link in your unit’s ability to secure its part of the Air Force network enterprise.

The days of base networks being stand-alone and independent of the rest of the Air Force infrastructure are no more. What you do at your base has an immediate impact on the Air Education and Training Command infrastructure and subsequently the rest of the Air Force.

The bottom line is we’ve become a network centric entity, and every member shares the responsibility of protecting the network. It’s not just the communication squadron’s responsibility, but every member of the team plays an important role in protecting this valuable resource. A breach of network security could influence whether we strike the right target, cause



innocent civilians to lose their lives or cause an international incident.

That’s where every person comes in. We are the keepers of the gate when it comes to network security. It’s our responsibility to understand the policies, know the procedures and where to go for help when network security issues arise. If we blow it, we have a negative impact on national security, we affect the Air Force’s ability to perform its mission and we impact our people.

The next time you change your password, store it in a secure place. The next time your computer becomes infected with a virus, know the procedures and who to contact. When you have software that’s required for operational use, ensure the designated approval authority okays it.

Remember, as gatekeepers we are the enforcers. Don’t be your unit’s weakest link. What we do doesn’t just stop at our front gate. Its tentacles stretch far and wide across the Air Force. Make network security a part of the way you conduct business on a daily basis.

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## Hold off on embroidering logo

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Air Force clothing office officials are asking airmen to wait a few weeks before having their lightweight blue jackets embroidered with the Air Force logo.

“We’ve had an overwhelmingly positive response in regards to placing the logo on the jacket,” said Libby Glade, Air Force clothing office chief. “However, we have also received numerous questions from embroidery vendors and private individuals about the logo. We are revising the technical data to obtain an embroidery software format to ensure a high-quality, consistent appearance.”

A contractor is currently working on a digitized pattern, which will be available online at [www.af.mil/airforce](http://www.af.mil/airforce) story by the first week of February, Ms.



Glade said. This pattern should be compatible with 90 percent of the embroidery software programs used by vendors.

“We are advising vendors and individuals to hold off on embroidering until further guidance is available,” she said.

Besides the digitized pattern, complete, updated specifications for embroidery will be available online. These specifications will include a diagram of logo placement and design elements, such as thread color and number, font style and size, stitch style and count, and spacing.

Ms. Glade said those individuals who have already had their jackets embroidered based on the current Web site logo guidelines and the previous news article are authorized to wear their embroidered jackets.

“However, we are advising that since this software will ensure conformity with the AF logo guidelines and provide uniformity across the AF, it would be best if individuals refrained from having their jackets embroidered until the software is available,” she said.